

## ABSTRACT

5 A method useful for facilitating choosing a treatment or treatment  
regime and for predicting the outcome of a treatment for a disorder which  
is diagnosed and monitored by a physician or other appropriately trained and  
licensed professional, such as for example, a psychologist, based upon the  
symptoms experienced by a patient. Unipolar depression is an example of  
10 such a disorder, however the model may find use with other disorders and  
conditions wherein the patient response to treatment is variable. In the  
preferred embodiment, the method for predicting patient response includes  
the steps of performing at least one measurement of a symptom on a patient  
and measuring that symptom so as to derive a baseline patient profile, such  
15 as for example, determining the symptom profile with time; defining a set  
of a plurality of predictor variables which define the data of the baseline  
patient profile, wherein the set of predictor variables includes predictive  
symptoms and a set of treatment options; deriving a model that represents  
the relationship between patient response and the set of predictor  
20 variables; and utilizing the model to predict the response of said patient to  
a treatment. A neural net architecture is utilized to define a non-linear,  
second order model which is utilized to analyze the patient data and  
generate the predictive database from entered patient data.

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